

Message Text

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TAGS: SENV, OECD, SW

SUBJECT: SURVEY ON FLUOROCARBON PRODUCTION, USE AND RESEARCH

REF: STATE A-5061

1. SWEDEN PRODUCES NO FLUROCARBON PROPELLANTS. ALL OF SWEDEN'S REQUIREMENTS ARE REPORTEDLY MET BY IMPORTS FROM WEST GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS (INCLUDING LOCALLY BASED U.S. PLANTS), AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. THE PRINCIPAL SUPPLIERS ARE DUPONT, HOECHST AND ICI.

2. ACCORDING TO SWEDISH TRADE SOURCES, THERE ARE THREE AREAS OF USE FOR FLUOROCARBONS, NAMELY (1) THE AEROSOL INDUSTRY (AS PROPELLANTS FOR SPRAY CONTAINERS), (2) REFRIGERATION INDUSTRY, AND (3) SO-CALLED FOAMED INSULATION INDUSTRY.

3. ACCORDING TO THE SWEDISH AEROSOL SOCIETY (SVENSKA AEROSOL-FOERENINGEN), SWEDEN'S CONSUMPTION OF AEROSOL UNITS USING THE FLUROCARBON AS PROPELLANTS HAS REMAINED RELATIVELY STATIC DURING RECENT YEARS AT ABOUT 30 MILLION UNITS PER ANNUM (AVERAGE WEIGHT OF A UNIT IS 100 GRAMS) OR A PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF ABOUT 3.7 UNITS. THE COSMETICS INDUSTRY USES TWO-THIRDS OF THE AVAILABLE FLUOROCARBON PROPELLANTS AND THE REMAINDER IS USED FOR VARIOUS HOUSEHOLD AND "TECHNICAL" PURPOSES, INCLUDING PAINTS, INSECTICIDES AND OTHER PRODUCTS.

4. AN OFFICIAL OF HENNING STENBECK AB, A LEADING SWEDISH
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DISTRIBUTOR OF FLUOROCARBONS FOR THE REFRIGERATION INDUSTRY,

STATES SWEDISH CONSUMPTION OF FLUOROCARBONS FOR THE REFRIGERATION AND SO-CALLED FOAMED INSULATION INDUSTRIES TOTALS ABOUT 1,200,000 KILOGRAMS ANNUALLY. CONSUMPTION OF FLUOROCARBONS FOR THE REFRIGERATION INDUSTRY IS SAID TO BE INCREASING SLIGHTLY, OR AT AN ANNUAL RATE RANGING FROM FIVE TO TEN PERCENT.

5. THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION BOARD AND THE NATIONAL SCIENCES RESEARCH COUNCIL THE STRATOSPHERIC EFFECTS OF FLUOROCARBONS ON THE OZONE LAYER, AND NO RESEARCH IS PLANNED. SWEDISH SCIENTISTS CURRENTLY FOLLOW FOREIGN RESEARCH AND AWAIT ESPECIALLY THE RESULTS OF PROJECTS UNDERWAY IN THE U.S.
JOHNSON

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